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ADVOCATE OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

BOSTON, JUNE—JULY, 1890.

R. B. HOWARD, EDITOR.

—Rev. R. B. Howard and Rev. C. B. Smith will sail from New York for Liverpool, July 1st, at 3.30 P. M. on steamer "Nevada" of the Guion line. Other delegates of the American Peace Society to the Universal Peace Congress at London July 14–19, sail by other steamers, some from New York and some from Boston.

—The Secretary preached a peace sermon at the Centre Church in his native town of Leeds, Me., Sunday morning, June 15, and in the afternoon on behalf of himself and his two brothers presented a flag to the school district where they commenced going to school and where two of them had been teachers. He dwelt upon the significance of the flag as commemorative of the triumphs of peace as well as those of war.

Yes, surely as God lives the day
Of peace, He promised, shall be ours.
To fold the flags of war and lay
Its sword and spear to rust away,
And sow its ghastly fields with flowers.

—John B. Wood, Secretary of the Christian Arbitration Society of Philadelphia, visited Richmond, Va., secured a "call" and a full house at Dr. Hoge's church on Sunday, May 12, at 5 P.M. Bishop Whipple of the Episcopal church presided. A delegation to London was chosen.

—Hon. R. C. Winthrop wrote the Secretary a very kind letter of sympathy and approval of the London Peace Congress and God-speed for the delegates.

—The women's auxiliary of the London Peace Society consists of 130 branches and 15,000,000 members in various parts of Great Britain,

—We learn from J. B. Wood, Secretary of the Christian Arbitration and Peace Society of Philadelphia, that he secured a large and representative meeting of the Christian churches in Baltimore, Md., and it appointed an able delegation to the London Congress.

—The report of Rev. W. E. Darby of the London Peace Society is comprehensive, instructive and inspiring. The new Secretary has proved himself not only a man of affairs, but a knight of the pen.

—The United States has been honored in the selection of the preacher before the Universal Peace Congress. Rev. Reuben Thomas, D.D., of Brookline, Mass., has responded by cable favorably to an invitation telegraphed from London, and will deliver the sermon at Westminster Chapel, July 16. All Americans then in London will be delighted to hear our favorite preacher on his native soil and on an international subject of such absorbing interest.

—The New England Yearly Meeting of Friends has appointed James H. Chace and Lucretia G. Chace of Providence, R. I., delegates to the Universal Peace Congress at London.

PEACE MEETINGS.

Our own meetings occupy so much space in this paper that we can only mention those of other Societies which seem to have been the best attended and most interesting for years.

The Universal Peace Union held meetings May 24th at the Friends' Meeting-house in Baltimore, Md., and on the 25th at Dr. Sunderland's Presbyterian church, Washington, D.C. President Harrison gave the Society a cordial reception at the Executive Mansion.

We regretted that duties at home prevented the kind invitations to attend these delightful gatherings of the friends of Peace.

ITALY'S BLIGHT.

Italy is not a prosperous country and her trials instead of diminishing seem rather to grow heavier every year. The tremendous army and navy which the present administration seems bound to keep up are a dead weight on a country already struggling with an enormous debt, and taxation is continually on the increase. Everything is taxed, food, clothing and drink. The very signs on the streets must have a government stamp on them, and, worse than all, almost one-fifth of the population are kept in enforced idleness. The National government has almost reached its limit and now is trying to raise money indirectly through the city governments. The city council of Rome all resigned the other day rather than impose a tax for the general government on the already over-taxed people.—*O. McG. H. in Farm, Field and Stockman.*

THE PEOPLE SPEAK.

S. L. Hartman of Lancaster, Penn., has had a pleasant reception from the people of that region and has secured 276 signatures to the petition to Congress against arming the United States as the European nations are armed. The petition is as follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled:

Inasmuch as an unprecedented and extraordinary expenditure of public money for merely military purposes in a time of profound peace is seriously proposed by the Naval Committee of the United States Senate and by other persons, to fortify the coast, create a vast navy and make a standing army of 100,000 necessary; the undersigned citizens of the State of respectfully but earnestly entreat your honorable bodies to reject the recommendations of the Naval Committee and other measures of similar character, which propose to devote such a large amount of the public money needed to foster material development and national education, to that which we believe will provoke unfriendliness abroad and menace peace and security at home.

Among these are Presidents, Professors in colleges and Ministers of the Gospel, to the number of seventy-four, and the leading men of every profession and occupation in that garden of the Eastern States from which have come forth many men prominent in the politics of the United States. The petition was forwarded to the members of Congress for the ninth district of Pennsylvania and doubtless had weight in causing the halt which politicians have ordered in great military armaments.